

REMARKS

Applicant requests reconsideration and further examination of this application.

Applicant appreciates the guidance given by the Examiner in paragraph # 3 of the recent Office Action. In reply, Applicant has cancelled Claims 9-20 and added new Claim 21.

The new Claim recites that:

1. The invention is a box-like display case with fixed sides and bottom, all made of polystyrene foam;
2. The display case has a removable top with a top upper portion and a bottom lower portion;
3. The upper portion of the top has a covering which is made of material selected from the group consisting of Corian®, finished plywood , wood paneling, and plastic laminate, and the upper portion rests on the top edges of, and fits flush with, the sides of the box; and,
4. The lower portion of the top is adhered to the upper portion, and fits within a space defined by the internal dimensions of the top edges of the sides of the box.

Respectfully, none of the cited references, even in combination, disclose or suggest:

- a bottom and sides of polystyrene foam, and a top with a covering being made of a different material as listed; and
- the top both resting on and fitting within and being flush with the top edges of the sides of the box.

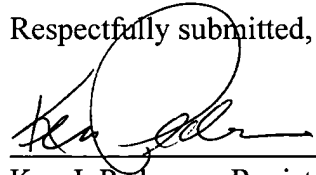
Neither the cited Grogan (U.S. Patent #6,325,281) reference, nor the cited Hannaford (U.S. Patent #1,865,688) reference, describes the different materials as listed for the removable top. Also, neither of these references describes the two-stage combined lid which fits within and flush with the top edges.

These claimed features, which are neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited references, result in increased stability and improved appearance of the display platform (see paragraph 0018).

Therefore, Applicant submits the instant invention as claimed is novel and nonobvious, and patentable.

Applicant now believes the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the same.

Respectfully submitted,



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